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## Book Reviews

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## BOOK REVIEWS

*We Came Naked and Barefoot: The Journey of Cabeza de Vaca Across North America*, Alex D. Krieger and editor, Margery H. Krieger (University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819) 2002. Contents. Maps. Appendices. References. Index. P. 318. \$39.95. Hardcover.

In 1536 Cabeza de Vaca entered Mexico City after a harrowing journey that included six years in captivity among various indigenous groups. A survivor of the catastrophic Narváez Expedition (1527) he returned with stories resulting in subsequent Spanish excursions searching for gold as well as rich descriptions of the natives and their way of life. The problem to arise from this was that de Vaca included valuable ethnographies of such groups in his account but he did not know where he was, making the identification of such groups difficult for modern scholars.

In his dissertation, the late Alex D. Krieger utilized his personal knowledge of the geography and environment of Texas to trace the route most likely traveled by de Vaca and his companions. In doing this he clarified many questions regarding not only where exactly de Vaca actually went, but also what groups he mostly likely encountered. Despite repeated attempts, Krieger failed to revise his dissertation into a manuscript attainable by the general public.

*We Came Naked and Barefoot: The Journey of Cabeza de Vaca Across North America* is the result of his wife's work to ensure the publication of Krieger's vital contribution to this area of study. She combined his various articles and dissertation to finish the book. Krieger goes into great detail, placing this work in the realm of serious scholarship on the early explorations and indigenous groups. Included in the appendix is a translated version of *Relación de los naufragios*, by Cabeza de Vaca, and Gonzalo Fernando de Oviedo y Valdez's *Historia general y natural de las Indias*, who interviewed de Vaca.

This book is an important contribution to many fields and helps clarify much-debated questions about the nature of indigenous groups in Texas soon after the Spanish arrived in Mexico.

Jason Denzin  
Nacogdoches, Texas

*Great Cruelties Have Been Reported: The 1544 Investigation of the Coronado Expedition*, Richard Flint. (Southern Methodist University Press, P.O. Box 750415, Dallas, TX 75275-0415) 2002. Contents. Appendices. Glossary. Notes. Illus. Index. P. 647. Hardcover.

The Coronado Expedition into the American Southwest (1539-1540) provided Spain with specific information about the geography and the American Indians in the region. Historians have viewed the expedition as more benign than destructive in respect to indigenous cultures. Flint argues that the expedition failed in its attempt to conquer and to settle New Mexico (*Tierra Nueva*). He believes that when Spanish conquest of an area occurred, it profoundly transformed both the native population and the conquerors. The Coronado Expedition did not lead to conquest and settlement for sixty years. Flint suggested that members of the expedition brutalized the native population, and that Spain, through its laws and conduct of expeditions, sought nothing less than the eradication of the indigenous cultures.

Upon returning from his foray into *Tierra Nueva*, Coronado faced criticism for his conduct of the expedition, leading in 1544 to an official investigation held in *Nueva España*. The investigation established that the effects of the expedition were various and complex and that members of the expedition had tortured and executed natives, destroyed towns, raped native women, and scattered populations. The investigation established unequivocally that cruelty occurred, but it did not indict Coronado for committing or sanctioning such barbarism. Instead, he was charged with minor offenses in order to distance Viceroy Antonio Mendoza and royal officials from the debacle. The investigation placed blame for the abuses upon Coronado's subordinates. While Coronado was not charged with serious offenses, his career and that of several other low level Spanish officials suffered irreparable damage.

Flint has included in this study the original transcripts of the investigation and an English translation of each. By using the *Proceso de Francisco Vázquez*, the most reliable of the transcripts of the investigation, he sought to identify the immediate and long-term impacts of the expedition upon the indigenous population, what prompted the investigation, and what it accomplished. Flint's work with these documents is impressive. He has demonstrated that too often historians dedicate too little effort to document research and analyze situations clearly, and frequently do not understand past events completely. Students of the American Indian and Spanish Borderlands can learn much about the Euro-American conflict in the Southwest from this excellent study.

Joseph A. Stout, Jr.  
Oklahoma State University

*Homelands: A Geography of Culture and Place across America*, Richard L. Nostrand and Lawrence E. Estaville, editors (The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2715 N Charles St, Baltimore, MD 21218-4319) 2001. Contents. Maps. Tables. Illus. Index. P. 319. \$49.95. Hardcover.

*Homelands* is the culmination of a decade-long effort by its editors to advance and promote a concept for understanding settlement in the United States. As Nostrand and Estaville state in their introductory chapter, the development of a homeland by a specific group involves several factors: a people; a territory; bonding with the territory; control of territory; and time. The concept provides a new angle on settlement of the United States, exploring how specific groups occupy an area, adjust to it over time, and then attempt to maintain it against the incursions of outsiders.

The fourteen contributors address groups from coast to coast ranging from the latent Yankee homeland outside Boston to the emerging Russian homeland in California's Central Valley.

Terry Jordan analyzes the Anglo-Texas homeland to discover the seeds of its origin, the boundaries of its core, its areal extent, and the symbols of greatest importance to its members (such as the Alamo and other battles), and how the group has sought to preserve its status and thus the survival of their homeland from outsider intrusion. Texas specialists will find this a refreshing look at the organization of Anglo Texas well worth their time.

Of equal stature is the chapter by Daniel Arreola on the *Tejano* homeland in South Texas. Arreola begins his case by exploring the distinctive aspects of South Texas that separate it from other areas of the borderlands, which also have significant Hispanic influence. Its environment, the relatively early process of Hispanic settlement beginning in the eighteenth century, and comparative isolation of the region set it apart from the remainder of the borderlands. Arreola uses the political dominance of the local population and their distinctive impress on town design to make the case for the existence of a *Tejano* homeland in South Texas.

Individuals concerned with Texas will find themselves rewarded by reading these two specific chapters. Scholars concerned with ethnicity and its lasting influence in pockets of the United States will enjoy this volume in its entirety.

Matt Engel  
Lincoln, Nebraska

*Traditions, Transitions, and Technologies: Themes in Southwestern Archeology*, Sarah H. Schlanger, editor (University Press of Colorado, 5589 Arapahoe Ave, Suite 206C, Boulder, Colorado 80303) 2002. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 418. \$45. Hardcover.

Archeologists in many parts of the Americas greeted the new millennium with colloquia dedicated to the retrospect and the prospect for their area of study. In this light, *Traditions, Transitions, and Technologies: Themes in Southwestern Archeology* presents much of the proceedings of the seventh biennial meeting of the Southwest Conference during January 2000 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In editing this scholarly volume Sarah Schlanger, an associate state archeologist for New Mexico, has organized nineteen of the symposium's invited papers from some thirty-seven contributors into three major sections. Each part of the book is introduced by an excellent summary chapter that places the constituent papers into their research context. Guiding the entire work is the re-examination of more than 100 years of study in the American Southwest and the introduction to the most recent advances that led the region's archeological endeavors into the twenty-first century.

Part I deals with a critical review and reinterpretations of research from the northern Rio Grande region, a heartland for Southwestern archeologists. Two chapters emphasize ceramic studies, highlighting the abiding utility of petrographic analyses and the potential for chronological sequencing based on a particular decorative ware. Other articles focus on large-scale landscape archeology, the emerging data regarding early archaic sedentism, community structure and social integration following the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, and the early development among Eastern Pueblos of sodalities (trans-kinship, trans-residential organizations). Perhaps the most provocative paper of the set concerns the question of changing intellectual property rights in Southwestern archeology and suggests a future with increasing partnerships between archeologists and descendant communities.

The book's second part presents six papers that challenge and refine older notions of the emergence of agriculture in the American Southwest. One study questions the viability of early "casual" maize agriculture while other papers ask if archeological data support the migration of farmers into the area or, by a competing notion, favor the adoption of farming by resident foragers. A chapter explores the social impact of the initial development of agriculture while another focuses on evidence of early irrigation.

The concluding section of the book presents a wide range of studies focusing on various technologies of the ancient Southwest. The organizing topics are as diverse as flaked and chipped stone tools, symbolic color technologies, architecture, rock art, and ceramics.

While this well illustrated and nicely edited volume will be most helpful to those with technical erudition, it will also be of interest to those with a more

casual interest in archeology and who wonder about the aboriginal world of the American Southwest.

Tom Middlebrook  
Nacogdoches, Texas

*Comanche Society: Before the Reservation*, Gerald Betty (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2002. Contents. Illus. Appendices. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 239. \$39.95. Hardcover.

At least half a dozen scholarly works pertaining to the Comanche Indians have appeared during the last decade. These books and articles have investigated many aspects of Comanche culture, including political, economic, and social matters. Using these works, as well as archival sources, Gerald Betty, history professor at Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi, has added to this literature by producing a study of the Comanche kinship system. Claiming that students of Comanche behavior have overemphasized the tribe's adaptation to environmental conditions, the author argues that kinship is actually "the key to understanding the organization of their community during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries" (p. 10). Betty explains behaviors such as camp residency, clan origins, and rank through the perspective of individuals' familial relationships as opposed to group-focused and culturally deterministic accounts. After defining how the Comanche kinship system worked, Betty discusses its effect upon the tribe's southern migration to Texas, the tribe's acquisition of horse pastoralism, the nature of Comanche economic behavior, and the warriors' violent behavior towards rivals and enemies.

As one might suppose, this work is much more anthropological than historical, and the author readily admits that his aim is not to provide a chronological narrative of Comanche history. Although the work is a worthwhile addition to Comanche historiography, at times the author belabors the point of kinship as a determining factor of tribal actions. At the same time, much of Betty's supposedly ground-breaking finds already have been discussed by authors such as Morris Foster and Gary Anderson. This book will appeal much more to specialists in Indian cultural behavior than to the general reader.

F. Todd Smith  
University of North Texas

*The Alamo: An Epic Told From Both Sides*, Jack Jackson (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78079-0159) 2002. Maps. Illustrations. P. 172. \$22.95. Paperback.

*The Louisiana Purchase: An American Story*, John Chase (Pelican Publishing Company, P.O. Box 3110, Gretna, LA 70053) 2002. Reprint. 1953, 1954, 1960, 1982. Illustrations. P. 86. \$12.95. Paperback.

Perhaps Alice in Wonderland said it best: What good are books without pictures and conversations? Jack Jackson and John Chase are two authors/illustrators who certainly followed Alice's advice, and the products are pleasing. "Jaxon," as his friends call him, takes on one of the thundering events of the Texas Revolution. His *Alamo* comes alive with a historically accurate plot, illustrations, and narratives as told by the participants on both sides of the epic battle. Davy Crockett is alive, and he talks to us. The same is true for James Bowie, William B. Travis, and all the rest. But we also hear from General Santa Anna, General Cos, and others, including common soldiers on both sides. Susannah Dickinson and the "babe of the Alamo" are there, as are the brave *Tejanos* who fought in the death pen alongside the likes of Travis and other Anglos.

Jaxon has followed the "traditional" version of the story of the Alamo. Santa Anna and his Mexican soldiers do not come off so well, especially in the final butchering, whereas most of the defenders are seen in a positive light. The author weighs in on that issue with a short bibliographical essay and critique of the sources. He points out that many of the "known facts" about the Alamo are at best conjecture. Consider Crockett: did he go down fighting, as some historians and John Wayne have maintained, or did he surrender and try to talk his way out of a big fix? Another question: how many died outside the walls while running, trying to escape after abandoning brave cohorts inside to face certain death? The author also mentions that we do not even know exactly what the Alamo looked like in 1836. Given all the uncertainties, Jaxon's interpretation is likely as valid as that of anyone else.

The late John Chase first came out with *Louisiana Purchase* in 1953, and a half century later the book still has its charm and lively humor. An introduction includes a narrative on the background of the purchase and a helpful chronology detailing the diplomacy involved. Then comes the heart of the story, told with verve by Chase. Whereas Jaxon sticks close to reality, Chase wanders a bit. He has talking lions (in Louisiana?), Indian narrators who sound like they hold Ph.D.s, talking birds, and Uncle Sam wearing his suit made of the American flag. Sam stands proudly in front of a map of the purchase, saying "It's mine, all mine." Yet, when it comes to meaningful detail and dialogue attributed to the various players, Chase's work passes muster.

These two graphic narrative histories explore meaningful aspects of America's past and also test the bounds of what is possible with the sequential

art medium, and both succeed in presenting their histories in imaginative and informative ways. Of the authors' efforts, Jaxon's volume is the more historically thorough of the two. *Alamo* is so rich in detail that even Texas historians who have not specialized in the study of the Revolution or the Republic will likely find new material previously unknown to, or forgotten by, them. As a teaching tool, Jaxon's work probably will be most useful for secondary school students, but adults should read it, too, for they will be surprised at the beauty of the illustrations and the realistic dialogue. Chase's work definitely is targeted at a younger audience, probably children in grades four through six or so. The plot is simpler, and the narrative easier for a small child to follow. *Louisiana* has more humor than *Alamo*, but even Chase's humor helps give history lessons, even if delivered by talking lions.

Both books remind me of my own bygone days when I was but a lad in grades four through about eight. Occasionally, a teacher who should have known better assigned a book to be reviewed. It was always something thick, awful, dull, deadly, and tormenting—like the *Hunchback of Norte Dame* or *Tale of Two Cities* or another terrible tome good for nothing except causing children mental anguish. I fancied that those were adult books, and I wanted nothing to do with them, or with adults like my teachers, either. Nevertheless, I would scurry around and dutifully check out such books from the library, but I never read them. Instead, I talked my dad out of a nickel, went to the drugstore, and bought the *Classic Comic Book* with the same title. I wrote my reviews from the comics; my teachers loved them and told me that I was most creative. I made A's for my efforts and simultaneously escaped serious adult literature without suffering brain damage. After reading the works mentioned above, I have developed a haunting, if somewhat vague, memory of Chase's *Louisiana*, for I think that I once had to do a little paper on the topic.

James M. Smallwood

Oklahoma State University

*Sam Houston*, James L. Haley (University of Oklahoma Press, 4100 28th Ave NW, Norman, OK 73069) 2002. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 512. \$39.95. Cloth.

Texas history has been wanting—at least since 1993—for an able and sweeping reinterpretation of arguably its greatest citizen, Sam Houston. The two hundredth anniversary of Houston's birth that year extracted a pair of ambitious biographies that largely proved to be critical disappointments. Randolph Campbell, in a more capable, but necessarily brief classroom volume (produced also in 1993 for the Library of American Biography series), certainly whetted the popular appetite for a contemporary "end-all" work. At last, James Haley's wide-ranging narrative *Sam Houston* presents one of the



best treatments of the great man since Marquis James's classic *The Raven* (1929).

It was no easy task. While Haley's *Sam Houston* lacks the sparkling prose that earned James the Pulitzer Prize, it is nevertheless a smart and intellectually compelling read. Rather than cultivating an endearment for Houston, it strives to explain the man in all his complexities. Haley rehabilitates the oft-battered Houston—the slave owner, the alcoholic, the close-to-the-vest military leader and politician—in a clinical fashion, taking his subject's critics to task without sounding defensive or worshipful. Solid scholarship grounded in fastidious research and "partisan objectivity" largely assures the author's success. The occasional reference to Byron and the classics, moreover, would have made old Sam smile.

Readers who have longed for a clear assessment of observations made by Houston's detractors will find Haley's examination especially pleasing. He lays to rest many of the carping rumors, half-truths, and outright lies that cast a cloud over Houston during his career. His alleged opium habit, for instance, appears to have been manufactured by anti-Houston army "mole" James Hazard Perry, "a spy sent by [Secretary of the Navy Robert] Potter" (p. 136). Haley also chastises writers, particularly Steve Hardin (*Texan Iliad*), who more lately, he says, have "resurrect[ed] ... century-old calumny as newfound gospel" (n. 30, p. 445). Even where verifiable facts are subject to interpretation, Haley fills in conveniently ignored contexts. For example, Haley makes it clear that revisionists who have criticized Houston for leaving Diana Rogers have held him up to the standard of the white society he had shunned. Ending a Cherokee marriage was comparatively simpler, but also more costly in material terms. In Houston's case, he left Rogers a sizeable farm and orchard as well as a successful trading business.

More damaging to Houston's reputation were questions of courage and leadership. In this regard, Haley presents a general who, at San Jacinto, raced toward the Mexican breastworks on horseback thirty yards in front of his foot-bound assault force. Tactically, he presents a logical case that explains why taking the left fork in the road leading to the pines and Redlands of East Texas might actually have been the wisest course of action.

There are other gems as well. To those who would "treat the Texas Revolution as a felony committed against the dignity of the Mexican nation," he asks, simply: "how much of the dictator's ... brutality [should] Texans have endured before a resort to arms would have been justified" (pp. 159-160)? Moreover, Haley all but lays to rest the burning question about Houston's broken marriage with Eliza Allen (no hints from these quarters!).

Of all the elements that comprise a good writer, a particularly important quality is one most often overlooked: what not to include. Haley's skillful telling of Houston's long post-Revolution years produces a clear, concise picture of his political career. We have seen some good examples in recent

biographies of prominent Texans, particularly the work of Gregg Cantrell in his volume on Stephen F. Austin. Robert Caro, on the other hand, no doubt exhausted many a reader (including this one) with a brief history of the U.S. Senate before trotting out LBJ for the third volume of his series. James Haley comes along and brings in Sam Houston under 500 pages of text—again, no easy task. He has done so admirably, and this reviewer predicts many years will pass before another biography supplants this one.

Ty Cashion  
Sam Houston State University

*The Human Tradition in the Old South*, James C. Klotter, editor (SR Books, Scholarly Resources, 104 Greenhill Ave, Wilmington, DE 19805-1897) 2003. Contents. Illus. Index. P. 228. \$19.95. Paperback. \$65.00. Hardcover.

This work is a supplemental reader for classes on the history of the Old South. It consists of twelve biographical essays on Southerners, some more prominent than others, whose lives reflect the culture of the Old South. It covers the period of early Spanish exploration through the experience of the Civil War. Diverse probably best describes the nature of the essays since they include the standard familiar figures such as Sam Houston and also lesser known women, a former slave, a Creek Native American, a southern humorist, a religious leader, and a Confederate soldier. One should not overlook the valuable introduction by the editor, which deftly presents the difficulty of defining the South. The culminating effect of the work leaves the reader with the realization that the South remains a slippery subject for writers.

Authors of the essays range from well-established members of the profession to budding historians, but they all show mastery of their subject and an understanding of the context of the era. Documentation leaves no doubt about the depth of research, and the style of writing is straightforward and clear. Students should follow the themes easily and find the book a useful tool for understanding the Old South.

While some subjects in the volume deal directly with East Texas, such as Sam Houston, others lived elsewhere, but the common denominator of antebellum Southern culture, which included the land, agriculture, slavery, and eventually war, gives all of them a relevance for the fans of East Texas history.

D. Clayton Brown  
Texas Christian University

*Dixie's Daughters: The United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Preservation of Confederate Culture*, Karen L. Cox (University Press of Florida, 15 NW 15th St., Gainesville, FL 32611-2079) 2003. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 219. \$55. Hardcover.

Karen Cox shows that the United Daughters of the Confederacy was responsible for the Lost Cause myth—that the “War Between the States” was not a rebellion or a fight to preserve slavery, but rather for preservation of the Constitution. The UDC began as soldiers’ aid societies, then formed into ladies memorial associations. In 1894, second-generation descendants organized the UDC and built monuments, museums, and homes for poor Confederate men and women, established educational programs, wrote books, and owned and edited magazines such as the *Lost Cause*.

Several Texas women are mentioned in *Dixie's Daughters*. The jacket photo shows students at Carr-Burdette College in Sherman dressed in red and white on Confederate Memorial Day. Mrs. Katie Cabell Currie (Muse) attended the organizational meeting in Nashville in 1894, and two years later organized the Texas UDC in Victoria. Texas President Adelia Dunovant of Galveston gave the general address in 1902 and urged that history be part of every meeting. Soon the Texas UDC had a room in the state capitol, then a museum. Cornelia Branch Stone of Galveston served as UDC’s president-general, 1907-1909. During her tenure the Texas Confederate Home for Women was completed in Austin. Miss Katie Daffan, of Austin, was the third vice-president of the UDC. She wrote several histories and monitored textbooks. The UDC also placed portraits of Confederate heroes in classrooms, and children took part in memorial parades and joined Children of the Confederacy. Stone wrote a catechism drill and practice for children on Confederate “facts,” and Texan Decca Lamar West wrote the *UDC Catechism for Children*.

The UDC gained vindication for the Confederacy through their rewriting of history. Cox repeats that Southern women were the last to admit defeat, but the UDC never did. Mrs. Dunovant admitted that she was “unreconstructed” and always referred to northerners as “the enemy.” The UDC created victory out of defeat; their monument at Shiloh is titled “A Defeated Victory,” and until recently confederate flags adorned public buildings in the South. Cox claims that the rhetoric of Southern racism can be traced to Laura Martin Rose’s primer, *The Ku Klux Klan, or Invisible Empire* (1913), which was endorsed by the UDC as a textbook.

*Dixie's Daughters* is valuable for anyone interested in Southern history, civil rights, or how Confederate culture was transmitted across generations.

Linda S. Hudson  
East Texas Baptist University

*A Southern Family in White and Black: The Cuneys of Texas*, Douglas Hales (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2002. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 178. \$29.95. Hardcover.

There can be no dispute that the Cuneys of Texas were an unusual family. Philip Cuney, a fairly typical planter and sometimes politician in *antebellum* Texas, was himself unusual due to his lengthy relationship with a slave woman, the manumission of his lover and their children, and his efforts to educate and support his mulatto offspring. Hales traces the lives of three generations of Cuneys from the arrival of Philip Cuney in early-nineteenth-century Texas through the death of Maud Cuney-Hare in Boston in 1936. As Hales explores the public lives of Philip Cuney's most notable son, Norris Wright Cuney, and his talented granddaughter, Maud Cuney-Hare, he observes that their successes largely were personal and did not significantly benefit their race or alter its status in Texas or the United States.

The bulk of the book focuses on Norris Wright Cuney, the noted Republican political leader during Reconstruction and post-Reconstruction Texas. Hales does a good job sketching the rise of Cuney through his connections with George Ruby and other black political leaders, Cuney's organization of black dock workers and his success in breaking the monopoly of the white union, and his connections with Galveston's business and civic leaders. Cuney's ability to deliver black votes while he maintained support from key white leaders enabled him to emerge as the leader of the Texas Republican Party following the death of E. J. Davis, and to attain the highest appointed position of any southern black—Customs Collector for the Port of Galveston. Cuney's influence waned in the mid-1890s as his health failed and racial hostility intensified.

Norris Wright Cuney's daughter achieved her success primarily as a talented classical musician. Maud Cuney-Hare was educated in Boston at the prestigious New England Conservatory of Music. She enjoyed modest success as a performer and greater success as a scholar and writer. Most noteworthy were her uncompromising opposition to racial prejudice and her racial pride. The latter undermined her marriage to her first husband, who attempted to pass for white.

Hales succeeds in his efforts to establish the significance of the Cuney family. However, there are questions that remain unanswered and opportunities not fully developed. It would have been nice, for example, to see a greater connection made with another Texas bi-racial, father-son political duo, the Rayners; likewise, while the friendship and communication between Maud Cuney-Hare and W.E.B. Du Bois is discussed in some detail, questions about both the nature of the relationship and its impact on both parties remain unanswered. Finally, the evolving racial background against which the family functioned could be developed better. None of these criticisms detract

seriously from the value of this book. Hales deserves our accolades for drawing our attention to this exceptional family.

Cary D. Wintz  
Texas Southern University

*Charreada: Mexican Rodeo in Texas*, Francis E. Abernethy, editor (University of North Texas Press, P.O. Box 311336, Denton, TX 76203-1336) 2002. Contents. Photos. Essays. Index. P. 99. \$24.95. Hardcover.

Al Rendon has photographed events of the San Antonio Charro Association since 1981. Seventy-nine of his duotone photographs illustrate succinct essays about *Charreada: Mexican Rodeo in Texas*. His splendid images capture the excitement of a *charro* leaping from his racing horse to the bareback of a running mare in the *paso de la muerte* event and the pageantry of elegantly dressed *charras* performing *La escaramuza*. "The moment of action in many of the photographs took hundreds of discarded film negatives and hundreds of attempts by the photographer" (p. ix).

Texas has seventeen *charro* associations. The *charreada* is a highly structured series of exhibitions of roping and riding between teams of competing *charros*. Francis Edward Abernethy, Julia Hambric, and Bryan Woolley wrote informative essays describing the evolution of the *Charrería* from Spain to Texas, the elaborate *charro* regalia, life of the *charro*, and the women's equestrian drill team (*La Escaramuza*). Some events of the *charreada* include team roping of bulls, mare riding, horse roping, and the "tailing of the bull" (*El Coleadero*).

Traditions of the *charro* (*charrería*) came from Spain and evolved in New Spain. "This annual roundup of range cattle, or *rodeo del ganado*, is the sixteenth century beginning of the *charreada*, the Mexican rodeo and the ancestor of Texas rodeos" (p. 2.) The *charro* was "not simply a vaquero, a working cowhand" but was the "son and heir of the hacienda" and evolved into the "symbol and the representative of the spirit and pride of heritage of the Mexican people" (p. 2).

Leslie Gene Hunter  
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

*Valor Across the Lone Star: The Congressional Medal of Honor in Frontier Texas*, Charles M. Neal, Jr. (Texas State Historical Association, University of Texas-Austin, 1 University Station DO901, Austin, TX 78712-I332) 2002. Contents. Illus. Appendices. Biblio. Notes. Index. P. 492. \$39.95. Hardcover.

This well-researched and interesting book represents the third important contribution to the military history of Texas in just two years. The Congressional Medal of Honor was first awarded for valor in Texas in 1861. The awarding of this medal continued during the Civil War and the series of Indian campaigns that took place thereafter. The medal was last awarded for valor in frontier Texas in 1891.

The Congressional Medal of Honor during the period examined never enjoyed the prestige afforded this rarest of military awards that it achieved after World War I. One reason for this is that a total of twenty-six of the sixty-eight medals awarded for gallantry were in just two engagements. The first was on the Little Wichita River on July 12, 1870, and the second was on the Upper Washita River from September 9 to 12, 1874. That there were twenty-six men who deserved to be recognized for valor in those two battles is not disputed. That there were that large a number of men who deserved the Congressional Medal of Honor is, however, often questioned. Nevertheless, an examination of the descriptions of the individual exploits of those recipients finds few who do not appear to have distinguished themselves in combat.

252 pages of this book describes the nineteen engagements that occurred in which one or more men were awarded the Congressional Medal. The remaining 223 pages contain a series of individual biographies of each awardee, a valuable bibliography, and six appendices that provide a collection of interesting information. Some include data from a longer period of time than that reviewed in this book.

Several mistakes were found while reviewing the book: Sergeant William DeArmond's exploits are mentioned (p. 151-152) in the description of the engagement on the Upper Washita, where he was killed, and his wife received his award; his name is, however, omitted (p. 141) from among those who received the Congressional Medal at the beginning of that chapter.

The author lists in Appendix A (on p. 457) a Corporal John C. Hesse and a Sergeant Joseph K. Wilson as receiving the medal. He then notes that they were removed from the Army Medal of Honor Roll in 1917 because their exploits did not take place in actual combat with an armed enemy. The alleged exploits of these two men are never explained in the text and I question why each was even included in the list of recipients since both were stricken from the roll eighty-six years ago. Their inclusion only confuses the list of Medal

of Honor awardees in Appendix A and again in Appendix C, which list their place of burial.

Allen G. Hatley  
La Grange, Texas

*Captain John H. Rogers, Texas Ranger*, Paul N. Spellman (University of North Texas Press, Box 311336, Denton, TX 76203-1336) 2003. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 270. \$29.95. Hardcover.

*Ed Gooding: Soldier, Texas Ranger*, Ed Gooding and Robert Nieman (Ranger Publishing, 35 Circle Dr, Longview, TX 75602) 2001. Contents. B&W Photos. Index. P. 269. \$?. Hardcover.

*Glenn Elliott: Still A Ranger's Ranger*, Glenn Elliott and Robert Nieman (Ranger Publishing, 35 Circle Dr, Longview, TX 75602) 2002. Contents. B&W Photos. Index. P. 274. \$?. Hardcover.

In regard to these three books on the Texas Rangers, *Captain John H. Rogers* is the most scholarly. Written by Paul N. Spellman, professor of history and division chair at Wharton Junior College, this biography details the career of one of the four "great Ranger captains" who upheld justice and laws in Texas during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; the other three legendary captains were John Brooks, John Hughes, and Ben McDonald. In a workman-like manner Spellman explains the circumstances that affected Rogers in law enforcement and how he addressed problems facing him and his men. He supports his findings with appropriate endnotes and bibliography.

The other two works are reminiscences by Texas Rangers who distinguished themselves in service to their state and nation. With the help of Robert Nieman, editor of the Texas Hall of Fame and Museum's on-line magazine, *The Dispatch*, Rangers Ed Gooding and Glenn Elliott have recollected the cases in which they participated. In long careers in state law enforcement, which stretched from the 1950s to late in the twentieth century, they have recounted their activities against hardened criminals who inflicted pain and suffering on Texans. Although Glenn Elliott tells more detailed and fascinating stories of his exploits, possibly because this volume, *Glenn Elliott: Still A Ranger's Ranger* is a follow-up of a previous one published in 1999, readers will find Ed Gooding's experiences in the U.S. Army after D-Day, in which he fought against the Germans, especially absorbing.

For those interested in Ranger history and tradition these three works will be welcome additions.

Ben Procter  
Texas Christian University

*Douglas Southall Freeman*, David E. Johnson (Pelican Publishing Company, P.O. Box 3110, Gretna, LA 70053) 2002. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 480. \$27.50. Hardcover.

Was Douglas Southall Freeman destined to write his magisterial *R.E. Lee*? Every antecedent drew Freeman inexorably toward Robert Edward Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia. Freeman's father, Walker Buford Freeman, assigned to the Fourth Virginia Artillery, was wounded in his first battle at Seven Pines, May 1862. Walker Freeman, who survived the war and surrendered at Appomattox, recounted seeing Lee on Traveler as the General inspected his troops, stopping to inquire about their comfort and well-being. Douglas S. Freeman grew up on Virginia's battlefields. Deciding early to write a history of the men who fought those battles, Freeman pursued the requisite education to obtain the tools needed to write history: preparatory school, undergraduate work at Richmond College, and a Doctorate at Johns Hopkins University. On Freeman's drive to work each day down Monument Avenue, the statue of Lee loomed large. Invigorated by his longtime hero, Freeman began his day's work as editor of the *Richmond News Leader*, a post he held from 1915 to 1949. Freeman, religious throughout his life, might have spoken of Providence.

To say that Freeman was simply a writer of biography misses the genius of the man. David E. Johnson, in his compelling and exhaustively researched biography of Freeman, makes this clear. Johnson has written a social and intellectual history of the United States during the first half of the twentieth century, as well as providing a nice slice of Civil War historiography. Freeman was a Southerner, a proud citizen of Virginia, and a devoted promoter of Richmond. As editor, he wrote about women's suffrage, civil rights, and prohibition. He walked with kings and potentates. He had the ear of several United States presidents; his editorials about the war were placed on President Woodrow Wilson's desk each day. Freeman lectured Winston Churchill and David Lloyd George on the War Between the States and guided them over battle sites. Robert Frost and Carl Sandburg were frequent quests in the Freeman home. Active in civic matters, Freeman served as trustee of several colleges, and philanthropic foundations, and as president of the Southern Historical Society. He spoke twice daily on the radio, sometimes enjoining his audience to turn the radio off, as the news for that day was not worth listening to! For seven years, one day a week, Freeman commuted to New York to teach a class on journalism at Columbia University.

Common to many driven, influential, powerful men, Freeman had his eccentricities. He disdained most social events as they prevented work on his beloved *R.E. Lee*. He would often retire for the evening, even if guests were still present. His well-known schedule dictated that he rise early; later in life he awoke at 2:30 a.m., hastened to the office, concluded his editorial duties by noon, and was back home working on his history by 3:00 p.m. This was an



ideal day; often the press of other interruptions intruded into his exhausting schedule. He believed it was sinful to waste time and had little patience with those who lagged behind or refused to meet his exacting demands and details. His days were filled with broadcasts, current events, meetings, civic duties, gardening, and lecturing. He made time to write history, often stealing precious moments from his family. Johnson is sympathetic toward his subject; he criticizes Freeman about as often as Freeman criticized Lee.

Freeman's *A Calendar of Confederate Papers*, released in 1908, caught the eye of discerning historians. Fredric Bancroft praised the work and Freeman's stock as a scholar and a serious researcher rose. He was soon at work on *Lee's Dispatches*, based on original documents and telegrams. In June 1915, after three years of meticulous editing, the book was published and received favorable reviews. Five months later, Charles Scribner's Sons Publishing asked Freeman to write a biography of Robert E. Lee. Freeman accepted the assignment to write a 75,000 word biography to be completed in two years. Twenty years later, Freeman's four volumes of over one million words won the Pulitzer Prize.

Freeman was the first to utilize the records of the Bureau of Engineers and of the United States Military Academy. When new material such as private manuscripts and letters crossed his desk, plans to write a brief biography were shelved. Freeman used the "fog-of-war" technique, which allowed the reader to learn facts only when Lee learned them. While this provided for a fairer judgment of Lee's movements, it also obscured the larger picture. This problem was solved by the use of extensive footnotes. Freeman boasted that every detail, from mud splashed on a uniform or corn in a soldier's stomach, had been documented. The quest for such details took time.

Johnson's book is not simply the recounting of Freeman's writing about Lee (or about *Lee's Lieutenants* or *George Washington*). It is an interesting, well-told, well-documented story about the busy life of an amazing man, who lived and walked with other such men—men for their times. Some still quarrel with Freeman's evaluation of Lee. Others may be tempted to skim each page, hoping to find Freeman in his study pouring over private letters from Lee to his family or to his generals at the front. For some, the details of this book, while interesting, may get in the way of the real story—Freeman writing about R.E. Lee—rebel turned hero. For both author and many students, everything else was superfluous.

Randy Harshbarger  
Nacogdoches, Texas

*African American Women Confront the West, 1600-2000*, Quintard Taylor and Shirley Ann Wilson Moore, editors (University of Oklahoma Press, 4100 28th Avenue NW, Norman, OK 73069-8218) 2003. Contents. Illus. Biblio. Contributors. Index P. 390. \$34.95. Hardcover.

For several decades western historians have plowed the rich fields of social and ethnic history, with special emphasis on Native, Mexican, and Asian-American experiences. African Americans have received less attention with black women being the most overlooked group of all. This volume, a collection of essays, begins to fill that gap. In doing so, the editors appropriately note, they help "complete the mosaic of experience formed through encounters of diverse peoples and cultures in this region over the past five centuries" (p. 3).

The chronological and geographical range of subjects is impressive, beginning with Isabel de Olvera, the daughter of a black father and Indian mother, who arrived in New Mexico in 1600, and ending with women in California's Black Panther Party of the 1960s. While most essays concentrate on examples from the Rockies, Pacific Northwest, California, and Nevada, the section on the Civil Rights era swings to Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. Merline Pitre's chapter on Lulu B. White's campaign to integrate the University of Texas will be of special interest to readers of this journal.

The diversity of the women is equally impressive. Ronald Coleman's essay on Jane Elizabeth Manning James, who converted to Mormonism in 1830, provides one fascinating example. James moved to Nauvoo, Illinois, found work as a domestic servant in Joseph Smith's household, and married another black convert. After Smith's murder, the couple joined the Saints' migration to Utah where they became involved in the church's network of mutuality and reciprocity, but—by virtue of their race—remained banned from some of its most important rituals and privileges. Throughout her long life, James appealed to church leaders to grant her equal treatment, but to no avail. In 1979, seventy-one years after her death at age ninety-five, the church finally granted her request. "Her racial consciousness, however, did not extend beyond her family and some fellow black Saints" (p. 156). James apparently interacted little with Salt Lake City's non-Mormon blacks.

Other essays reveal women with a broader sense of racial responsibility as they speak to similar themes: fighting oppression; encouraging education; and working through churches, clubs, and community organizations to achieve these ends. Activists were the most likely women to create records and thus provide sources for historians. Editors Shirley Moore and Quintard Taylor acknowledge non-activist women's experiences by supplementing the essays with primary documents such as a Texas slave woman's letter to her husband and a Nebraska woman's reminiscence of homesteading.

This is an outstanding collection. It demonstrates how much work has been accomplished and how much remains to be done.

Sherry L. Smith  
Southern Methodist University

*From Angels to Hellcats: Legendary Texas Women 1836 to 1880*, Don Blevins  
(Mountain Press Publishing Company, P.O. Box 2399, Missoula, MT.  
39806) 2001. Contents. Illus. Sources. Index. P. 147. \$12. Paperback.

The book contains stories of eight legendary Texas women who forged noteworthy paths on the bristly, untamed Texas frontier from 1836 to 1880. The narratives are true but “some offer a touch of speculation or hearsay” (p. x). The cohesive theme throughout the epics is the interaction of the women and their environment.

Among the legendary octet was one who survived the abhorrence of the Alamo and lived to relate the events to Sam Houston. Another, a Mexican woman, intervened at Goliad to save lives of *gringos* during the Texas Revolution. Still another, called Diamond Bessie, was murdered in the East Texas town of Jefferson. Other notables were prone to spontaneous eruptions of brazenness and made use of strong language, lethal weapons, and sundry other means to hold their own in multiple showdowns.

The subtitle of the book suggests that the main focus is strictly biographical; however, large portions of the narratives cover other topics and historical minutiae is dispersed throughout the text. One account reports how Santa Anna contributed to the creation of Adams’ Chiclets Chewing Gum.

Inclusion of interesting sites and sources, general and specific to each chapter, increases the worth of the book. *From Angels to Hellcats* should appeal to western history buffs and readers interested in women’s studies and historic trivia.

Jauquita Hargus  
Texas A&M University—Texarkana

*Texas Wisewomen Speak “Let Me Tell You What I’ve Learned,”* PJ Pierce  
(University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819)  
2002. Contents. B&W Photos. Appendices. Biblio. Index. P. 302. \$19.95.  
Paperback. \$39.95. Hardcover.

PJ Pierce’s *Texas Wisewomen Speak: “Let Me Tell You What I’ve Learned”* proves to be a history of another stripe. It could be described more accurately as a primary resource than what most academic historians would

think of when asked to review a new "history" book.

Pierce interviewed twenty-four outstanding Texas women over the age of fifty. She contrasted their views on the same topics, such as Texas Women, Politics, Anger, Principles I Live By, Careers, Faith, Satisfaction, Failure, Privacy, Mentoring, Adversity, and Growing Older. She presents contrasting views from Kay Bailey Hutchison, Barbara Jordan, Liz Carpenter, Sarah McClendon, Violette Newton, Linda Ellerbee, and many more of Texas's most outspoken and successful women.

Pierce comes up with some real gems! Amy Freeman Lee, noted painter, lecturer, and faculty member from the San Antonio area, said in response to Pierce's question about independence, "Although we all die from a variety of causes, in the end it is loneliness that is the real face of death" (p.163). Barbara Jordan's principles to live by included, "It's a sin to be ungrateful," "live to the fullest," and "nothing is promised to you" (p.134). Violette Newton, Texas poet, gave a priceless response to a prejudicial comment from someone in her audience that she "came from the swamps"—meaning the Beaumont area. "I replied in my soft, Southern-lady voice, 'Not swamps, deah, but broad oaks and tall pines. Then I smiled sweetly, lifted my hoopskirts and walked out of her mind" (p.191).

Pierce prefaces each respondent's interview with a helpful biography and insights about her interviews. This allows readers who might not know all of the women to understand the backgrounds of their comments. The value of Pierce's work will be born out in the future, as these women's voices are stilled in death, as is now the case with Barbara Jordan and Sarah McClendon.

Beverly Rowe  
Texarkana College

*The Last Cowboy: The Personal Story of a Vanishing Cowboy*, Davis L. Ford (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159) 2002. Contents. Appendices. B&W Photos. Endnotes. Biblio. Index. P. 255. \$32.95. Paperback.

When I first received this book to review, I thought, "Oh no, another book that only the family and friends of the subject will read or find interesting." I was wrong. Davis L. Ford tells a story about a man most readers will find interesting and also about other subjects which will appeal to anyone who has an interest in ranching in West Texas and New Mexico.

Ford tells us that although Leroy Webb is not actually the last cowboy, he is a member of a fraternity of working cowboys whose numbers are rapidly declining. When Ford wrote the book, Webb himself—although in his late sixties—was not declining. In fact, he was managing one of five divisions of a

600,000 acre ranch that is scattered throughout northeastern New Mexico. The Bar Y Ranch, the division Webb manages, is located north of Santa Rosa.

If a preface is a promise about what will follow, Ford keeps his promise. In his preface, Ford tells the reader that Leroy Webb has: spent most of the last sixty years in the saddle; broken more than 2,500 horses; slept under the stars or in a line camp for more than 15,000 nights (if you are inclined to check things like that out, as I am, that is over forty-one years); raised, trained, and sold world champion roping and cutting horses; attained championship status as a rodeo performer; roped bears, elk, coyotes, and antelope, in addition to thousands of cattle; worked at more than twenty-five major ranches in the Southwest; and flirted with the New York and Hollywood scene. Ford then relates many interesting accounts concerning these deeds and accomplishments.

Ford also does much more. Although Webb's story is certainly one worthy of a book, it is this "much more" that makes this book worth reading. As well as telling the land title history of many of the ranches where Webb worked, Ford also relates a brief history of New Mexico land grants and land acquisition. He writes of the changes in the cattle industry brought on by barbed wire, the windmill, the railroad, pickups, horse trailers, feed grains, beef processing and marketing, and the computer. Ford tells of an incident in which Webb received an offer to purchase one of his award-winning horses. Webb sought the advice of his friend, Warren Shoemaker, a respected quarter-horse breeder and trader. The advice he received makes the book worth reading for anyone who has property for sale.

It is Ford's ability to combine history, whether it is cattle or horse history or ranch history, with Leroy Webb's story that makes this a worthy addition to the library of anyone who is interested in West Texas, New Mexico, ranching, and the current state of the cowboy.

Tom Crum  
Granbury, Texas

*Cowboy Spur Maker: The Story of Ed Blanchard, Jane Pattie and Tom Kelly*, (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2002. Contents. Illus. Biblio. Index. P. 146. \$24.95. Hardcover.

Western identity is most often aligned with the image of the open-range cowboy the free spirits of the plains who seem to celebrate the region's unique idea of rugged individualism. Although some scholars may debate the worthiness of the cowboy as a symbol, his ubiquitousness in literature, popular culture, and history continues to make him an important part of Western lore.

Jane Pattie's and Tom Kelly's *Cowboy Spur Maker: The Story of Ed Blanchard* continues such a tradition. Pattie is the author of *Cowboy Spurs and Their Makers* as well as numerous articles on the American West. Tom Kelly is Ed Blanchard's cousin, a New Mexico rancher, and his recollections about Blanchard form the basis of the text. Their portrait of Ed Blanchard draws on the popular image of the cowboy to document Blanchard's fame as a craftsman who "...made spurs that fit a cowboy's boots" (p.4). The result is a work that examines the life of a pioneer rancher and cowboy and how the business and techniques of ranching has changed through the lifetime of their subject.

Ed Blanchard ranched and worked in central New Mexico's Water Canyon region, an often inhospitable land. The authors trace the development of the Kelly Ranch and other operations in New Mexico, where Blanchard often worked, in the process relating the experiences of the family in establishing and maintaining a viable business in a harsh environment. A central part of their examination is the development of Ed Blanchard as a maker of spurs. Blanchard became a superb craftsman because he understood the needs of the range cowboy. Blanchard made his spurs to fit a man's boots and each pair was unique.

The most valuable contribution of Pattie's and Kelly's work is their description of the changes in the development of ranching in New Mexico and the Southwest. The Magdalena country of New Mexico was a diverse region of miners, sheepmen, cattle ranchers, and merchants. While the early years were often more about simply surviving, ranching in the region soon developed into a business that involved cattle-buyers, bankers, and government programs. Early ranchers survived if they adjusted to the new way of conducting business, a development that Tom Kelly laments. Now, "the rancher must have a lawyer to advise him, an accountant to keep his books, and the government to tell him how many cows he has and how to manage his operation" (p.140), but the lifestyle endures.

While *Cowboy Spur Maker* may disappoint scholars looking for a more analytical examination, Pattie's and Kelly's work will please the general reader searching for a tale of ranch life. The well-written work will capture the reader's attention with its apt descriptions and subtle humor. It is a good representation of the oral history tradition and makes a contribution to the understanding of the life of a ranch cowboy and ranch life in general.

Scott Sosebee  
Texas Tech University

*San Antonio on Parade: Six Historic Festivals*, Judith Berg Sobré (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2003. Contents. Illus. Epilogue. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 264. \$29.95. Hardcover.

In *San Antonio on Parade: Six Historic Festivals*, Judith Berg Sobré has depicted not only how San Antonio was transformed into a cosmopolitan city following the Civil War, but also how urban growth influenced the identities of the major ethnic groups constituting the population, including Anglos, Germans, and Mexicans. She studied celebrations such as Volksfests, *Diez y Seis*, and Juneteenth to demonstrate how the relationships within and among the various ethnicities changed during the last third of the nineteenth century.

Sobré organized her book well, placed the ceremonies in historical context, and provided cogent analysis. She began with a prologue describing two festivities at the start and finish of the era to emphasize her main analytical objectives throughout the book. She continued with a chapter detailing San Antonio's growth in the late-nineteenth century and followed with separate chapters for seven different ceremonies. In each, Sobré provided background regarding the ethnic group involved as well as antecedents of the holidays themselves. Her analysis regarding the Mexican community's *Diez y Seis* celebrations exhibits the characteristics of recent and respected scholarship in Mexican American history by emphasizing the complexities within the Mexican American community rather than treating it as a monolithic entity. Throughout the book, she successfully argues that the festivals communicated Americans' beliefs in Manifest Destiny and their preoccupation with progress, and wrote convincingly that the celebrations demonstrated the Americanization of San Antonio. *San Antonio on Parade* provides an entertaining and informative way to learn more about the ethnic history of San Antonio during an important era of the city's growth.

Shannon L. Baker

Texas A&M University—Kingsville

*Felix Longoria's Wake: Bereavement, Racism, and the Rise of Mexican American Activism*, Patrick J. Carroll (University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819) 2003. Contents. Illus. Notes. Map. Index. Tables. P. 270. \$19.95. Paperback.

In *Felix Longoria's Wake*, Patrick J. Carroll uses this shameful event to consider "both the resilience of discrimination and opposition to it" in the Nueces corridor during the first half of the twentieth century (p. 13). He succeeds in this charge and provides an excellent overview of the political and social ramifications in Texas and elsewhere of this senseless disparagement of the remains of an American war hero.

The author divides his study into six chapters and a conclusion. He first sets the stage by recounting the conditions endured by people of Mexican descent in South Texas, detailing the substandard housing, economic hardship, and educational circumstances that Spanish-speakers of this area endured. He describes the "incident" and the actions of the principals. Carroll not only scrutinizes the motivations of the Mexican American actors in the drama, such as Felix's widow, Beatrice, and Dr. Hector Garcia, but also considers the pressures faced by a recently arrived undertaker who realized that "Mexicans" in Three Rivers were not treated as equals but who had not "lived in the area long enough to know how to apply that power 'gracefully'" (p. 92).

Finally, the author focuses on how the incident takes on meaning and significance. He stresses the importance of the sacrifices made by Mexican Americans during World War II and the impact of this on their *post bellum* outlook. Additionally, Carroll credits and provides detail on the activities and political courage of Lyndon Johnson as well as members of the Texas Good Neighbor Commission.

Patrick Carroll is to be commended not only for presenting the details of the affair but also for permitting readers to witness acts of political courage. He presents an overview of how such an event can be used to mobilize for social action.

Jorge Iber  
Texas Tech University

*"We're the Light Crust Doughboys from Burrus Mill," An Oral History*, Jean A. Boyd (University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819) 2003. Contents. Appendix. Notes. Biblio. Index. Illus. P.164. \$18.95. Paperback. \$40. Hardcover.

*"We're the Light Crust Doughboys from Burrus Mill," An Oral History* written by Jean Boyd, emphasizes her interviews with Marvin "Smokey" Montgomery. Montgomery was a banjo and guitar player and member of the Light Crust Doughboys from 1935 until his death in 2001. He was instrumental in keeping the band together, especially with the songs he arranged. The band members would come and go over the years, but Montgomery remained a Light Crust Doughboy until his death in 2001.

The Light Crust Doughboys band was formed in 1931 by W. Lee "Pappy" O'Daniel, general manager of Burrus Mill and Elevator Company of Fort Worth. Earlier programs of bands on the radio, especially KFJZ, proved to Burrus Mill the advantage of advertising its flour in that media. The original band members, all employees of Burrus Mill, included Bob Wills, Herman Arnsperger, Milton Brown, Derwood Brown, and Truett Kimzey. The Light



Crust Doughboys are credited with developing western swing, but gradually they added other types of music, including folk and fiddle tunes, gospel songs, ragtime, blues, jazz, and minstrel songs. Their radio program was broadcast on more than 170 radio stations and eventually progressed to a television program.

The Light Crust Doughboys changed musicians, but not their style of music, through the years. They continue to entertain audiences of all sizes nationwide. They were inducted into the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame in January 2003. Boyd's research demonstrates that their contribution to Texas music is priceless.

I was fortunate to receive tickets to see the Light Crust Doughboys in Center, Texas. Their style of music continues to be one of my favorites, especially their presentation of "Beautiful Texas."

Portia L. Gordon  
Nacogdoches, Texas

*The Roots of Texas Music*, Lawrence Clayton and Joe W. Specht, editors (Texas A&M University Press, 4354 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4354) 2003. Contents. Illus. Contributors. Index. P. 235. \$29.95. Hardcover.

I am sorry that Lawrence Clayton did not get to see *The Roots of Texas Music*. He would have been proud to see that Joe Specht had put a good finish on what he had so thoughtfully begun. *The Roots* is a readable, instructional tour of the diversity of Texas music. He who reads it will come away proud of the people and the pickin' and singin' that has put so much life in this state's air and influenced the music played in the rest of the USA and elsewhere around the world. The roots of much of the music to which the world listens are deep in Texas soil.

Gary Hartman, director of The Center of Texas Music History, leads off, quite properly, with an introductory overview of the music of the main ethnic groups who sang their way through Texas. He starts with Indians, moves easily and in some depth to the music of the Spanish and Mexicans, does a beautiful job with the songs and sounds of the African Americans, and gives the Anglo's musical traditions a lick and a promise. He also includes a brief introduction to the contributions of the Germans, Czechs, and French/Cajuns.

Texas jazz historian Dave Oliphant (a former student of whom I boast) leads off the body of the text with his definitive essay on jazz roots in Texas. Brother Dave points out that even though Texas is best known for the exportation of country and *conjunto*, ragtime, blues, and boogie woogie were parts of Texas music from its beginnings. Scott Joplin of Texarkana is the

shaper of ragtime. Jack Teagarden of Vernon sent out the blues message with his "Slide, Mr. Trombone." And Teddy Wilson of Austin took his blues and boogie licks all the way to Benny Goodman. Trumpeters "Hot Lips" Page of the "Twenties Jazz Age and Harry James of Big Band Swing were Texans who preceded the esoteric progressive jazz age of the 1950s and Austin's Kenny Dorham, who played with Dizzy Gillespie. So Texas might not be the ultimate seedbed of the international jazz scene, but Oliphant shows that Texas jazzmen played a large part in the history of that musical movement.

Editor Joe Specht got to the heart of Texas music matter in his "Put a Nickel in the Jukebox," the story of the early evolution of country-hillbilly-honky tonk-country-and-western music. Specht, like all good c&w historians, begins with Eck Robertson fiddling "Sallie Gooden" in a New York studio in 1922. This, along with Vernon Dalhart's million-platter seller, "The Wreck of the Old 97" and "The Prisoner's Song," was the beginning of country music's spread from Texas and Appalachia to the rest of the US and the world. Specht discusses the further addition and refinements of country music by Tex Ritter and Gene Autry, the singing, picture-show cowboys who put the "western" into country music and paved the way for Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys, who made this music into western swing, the music to dance to. And where would the world be without the Texas song writers: Ted Daffan's "Born to Lose" or Floyd Tillman's "Makes No Difference Now" or Cindy Walker's "When My Blue Moon Turns to Gold Again." And here comes Ernest Tubb, still "Walkin' the Floor Over You." Specht convinces us that the world is culturally richer—in a country sense, of course—for Texas c&w singers and songwriters.

The late John Lightfoot presents musical biographies of the great Texas bluesmen from Blind Lemon Jefferson through Mance Lipscomb and Lightnin' Hopkins. Roger Wood continues the study of African American musical traditions with his story of Louisiana Creoles and Zydeco in southeast Texas. Kenneth Davis discusses popular church music, beginning with the venerable sounds of Sacred Harp and proceeding to happy, hopping Stamps-Baxter quartets singing "Give the World a Smile Each Day."

European musical roots include the Poles, Czechs, and Germans. Incidentally, I listened on my car radio to a modern version of the German "*Muss I Denn*" about a month ago, remembering that it was the homesick song of the German settlers in the 1840s and that it was still played regularly through loud speakers in modern German town centers. Larry Wolz emphasizes the importance of German classical, concert, and choral music in the Texas tradition. And Carolyn Griffith reminds us in her essay on Czech and Polish music that Texas music would be thinner indeed without the waltzes, schottisches, and polkas that the many Czech bands made popular throughout Texas.

José Gutiérrez points out that an ever-growing Mexican population is

bringing in its own music to Texas and the United States. Gutiérrez begins the *chicano* musical heritage with the Olmecs, proceeds through the Caribs and the introduction of Spanish and African music during colonization, makes the crossing into Anglo traditions with the Pachuco Zoot Suiters of the 'Forties, and concludes with the waves of popularity of modern Mexican-American music.

*The Roots of Texas Music* is a book that is rich in historical detail, and one can hardly do it justice with generalizations about its contents. Lawrence Clayton and Joe Specht assembled a wealth of Texas music that will benefit any number of scholars whose interests lie with musical history.

But I had to whip myself with a hickory stick to make myself read that small, stingy, skinny print that A&M Press used to save a few pages of book production.

Francis Edward Abernethy  
Texas Folklore Society

*Franklin D. Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln: Competing Perspectives on Two Great Presidencies*, William D. Pederson and Frank J. Williams, editors (M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 80 Business Park Dr., Armonk, NY 10504) 2003. Contents. Chronology. Biblio. Contributors. Index. P. 287. \$26.95. Paperback. \$69.95. Hardcover.

Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt, presidents who guided America through national crises in two different centuries, continue to fascinate both scholars and the general public. This fifth volume of essays in the M.E. Sharpe Library of Franklin D. Roosevelt Studies successfully enhances an understanding of their dual greatness in terms of presidential leadership. Reflecting a wide range of recent scholarship, this anthology of eleven articles compares their leadership styles, considers aspects of their personal and public lives which contributed to their successes, and reveals how subsequent generations have preserved their legacy not only in monuments of stone but also in the classroom.

Several selections stand out. Historian Ronald D. Rietveld aptly demonstrates how Franklin Roosevelt "consciously wrapped himself in the mantle of Lincoln" (p. 54) for his own political purposes, often using the words and deeds of the Republican icon to defend New Deal policies. Rietveld, however, maintains that after Pearl Harbor FDR moved beyond partisan politics and utilized Lincoln as a symbol for national unity. Historian David E. Long skillfully examines the parallels between the presidential elections of 1864 and 1944, which focused on the wartime leadership of Lincoln and Roosevelt. Historian C. Todd Stephenson compares the FDR memorial plans and debates of the last thirty years with those surrounding the

creation of the Lincoln monument in the early decades of the twentieth century. Stephenson correctly notes, "memorials are wonderfully useful to historians as windows into the politics and culture of the times during which they were created" (pp. 128-129). In the final selection Texas community college history professor Matthew Ware Coulter discusses how innovative techniques can invigorate the teaching about the Roosevelt years.

This book will enhance any Roosevelt or Lincoln collection. And the selective bibliographies on both presidents provide an excellent introduction to recent scholarship.

Mark W. Beasley  
Hardin-Simmons University

*The Life of Price Daniel: Texas Giant*, Dan Murph (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159) 2002. Contents. B&W Photos. Acknowledgements. Notes. Index. P. 291. \$26.95. Paperback.

Price Daniel, governor of Texas from 1957 to 1963, has been generally overlooked by historians to this point. The likely reason for this lack of attention arises from the fact that Daniel's terms in office fell between two more controversial and dynamic chief executives, Allan Shivers and John Connally. Dan Murph, the grandson of the governor, seeks to illuminate the more important achievements of his forebear. He points out that Daniel was "elected to more major offices than any other public official" in Texas' history and "oversaw the passage of more legislation than any other Texas governor." While some might legitimately challenge these assertions, Daniel, nonetheless, ranks as one of the more important of the state's twentieth-century political figures.

A native of Liberty County, located in the southeastern corner of the state, Daniel first won elective office in 1938 to represent his district in the state legislature. In 1943, his colleagues selected him to serve as speaker of the House of Representatives, a position he held until he resigned to enter the military. He left the army in 1946 and immediately won election as the state's attorney general. In 1952, Daniel successfully campaigned for a seat in the United States Senate, vowing to pursue at all costs the fight with the federal government over the ownership of offshore oil lands. In 1956, following Texas' victory in the Tidelands dispute, Daniel resigned his Senate seat, returned to Texas, and won election to the first three terms as governor. During his later years, Daniel served eight years on the state supreme court. He died in 1988.

Murph's book gives us a broad overview of Daniel's lengthy career. It is a good place to begin. Those seeking to make a more critical evaluation of the man will need to research more deeply into the records and papers of other

prominent state officials of the time and focus a more intense light on the divisive political struggles that occurred in the state during the postwar years that shaped the Texas of today. Daniel remains an important figure and one can hope this book will excite the interest of other historians who will tell the story in greater detail.

Donald R. Walker  
Texas Tech University

*Whispers of Newton County: History, 1940-2000*, Pauline McNew Hines and Melba Langley Canty, compilers (Best of East Texas Publishers, P.O. Box 1647, Lufkin, TX 75902) 2002. Contents. Biblio. Appendices. B&W Photos. Tables Index. P. 599. \$35. Hardcover.

Newton, a densely forested county whose motto is "Clean Air – Fresh Water – Friendly People," is located in Deep East Texas. It is approximately ninety miles long and much less than half of that in width. It is bounded on the east by the Sabine River and Toledo Bend Reservoir, the south by Orange County, the west by Jasper County, and the north by Sabine County. The population in 2000 was 15,072.

*Whispers of Newton County* is the history of that county from shortly after the Great Depression and the beginning of World War II until the new millennium. The "whispers" are individually written stories by the various citizens of Newton County. Some of the stories are about towns or communities; others focus on churches, schools, clubs, organizations, and individuals.

The second part of the book is about county government and of its parts. The authors give the history directly from the records and they also quote the laws for the action. For instance, the story of the county historical commission begins with the law that created the Texas Historical Commission and works its way down to the county commission. The minutes of the Commissioner's Court have been collated and compiled into story form to tell the history of Newton County and its people. The results present a well documented, interesting history.

The compilers are to be commended for including African American history. The poem "They Called Her Sarah," published with the history of the Kerr Community, is an outstanding piece of Black literature.

I highly recommend *Whispers of Newton County* to all libraries with a Texas or genealogy collection, and especially to anyone contemplating writing a county history. *Whispers of Newton County* can serve as the standard. If you have roots in Newton County, this book is a must.

Willie Earl Tindall  
San Augustine, Texas

*More Ghost Towns of Texas*, T. Lindsay Baker (University of Oklahoma Press, 4100 28th Avenue NW, Norman, OK 73069) 2003. Contents. Maps. B&W Photos. Biblio. Index. P. 210. \$34.95. Hardcover.

Lindsay Baker has done it again.

His new book, *More Ghost Towns of Texas*, is just as delightful and interesting as his initial *Ghost Towns of Texas*, published in 1986.

Baker's first book broke new ground with a valuable collection of the towns we left behind in Texas. It included eighty-eight vanished communities, including eleven in East Texas.

Lindsay's new endeavor covers ninety-four ghost towns, including fourteen in East Texas—Direct (Lamar County); Kiomatia (Red River County); Dalby Springs (Bowie County); Silver Lake (Van Zandt County); Magnolia (Anderson County); Caddoan Mounds (Cherokee County); Oil Springs (Nacogdoches County); Ratcliff (Houston County); Pluck (Polk County); Ogden and Town Bluff (both in Tyler County); Weiss Bluff (Jasper County); Waverly (Walker County); and Stoneham (Grimes County).

Having written a few books about East Texas ghost towns, I've learned, like Lindsey, that calling a town a ghost can get you in a lot of trouble with the folks who still live there. The town of Sacul still refuses to allow me a visitor's permit for referring to the community as a ghost some twenty years ago. In spite of me, the town celebrated its centennial this year.

Therefore, Lindsay established a logical definition for his ghost town inclusions: the town must no longer exist, but it does not necessarily exclude populated areas. Many such towns are totally abandoned with no residents, but some of them do retain skeleton populations.

I am sure Lindsay will someday produce a third Texas ghost town book. When he does, I hope he'll include some of my favorites in East Texas, such as Aldridge in Jasper County, which has the best collection of sawmill ruins in Texas; East Mayfield in Sabine County, site of the Knox lumber empire between 1913 and 1922; Old and New Willard, two sawmill communities in Trinity and Polk counties; and DeZavala, also in Jasper County, one of the earliest Republic of Texas settlements in East Texas.

I would also toss in a Louisiana town: *Los Adaes*, which was the colonial capital of Spanish Texas in the 1700s.

Lindsay Baker's *More Ghost Towns of Texas* should be on the bookshelf of every East Texan who has even a passing interest in our forgotten or nearly-forgotten communities.

Bob Bowman  
Lufkin, Texas

*Mythic Galveston: Reinventing America's Third Coast*. Susan Wiley Hardwick (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2715 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218-4363) 2002. Contents. Tables. Maps. Illus. Biblio. Index. P. 175. \$39.95. Hardback.

*Mythic Galveston* is much more than just another narrative history of Galveston. Hardwick, an associate professor of geography at the University of Oregon, traces the confluence of physical, social, cultural, economic, and political factors that shaped this coastal city's identity and evolution. She places Galveston in the midst of "a distinct and as yet undefined geographic region" comprising the central Gulf Coast.

According to the author, "Galveston probably should never have been settled in the first place." Although nineteenth-century visitors had romantic views of Galveston Island, in reality they faced such threats as hurricanes, heat, yellow fever, and insects. Despite these physical limitations, Galveston emerged as a melting pot of various ethnic groups. Hardwick offers an unvarnished analysis, identifying deleterious factors such as the Galveston Wharf Company (organized in 1854) and the concentration of wealth among a few native-born families, which retarded the city's economic growth. She also examines Galveston's continuing efforts to redefine itself. The city did so out of necessity after the 1900 storm by adopting the commission form of local government. With a decline in its economy during the 1920s, Galveston touted itself as a Gulf Coast resort. In the 1970s, Galveston adopted a new emphasis on historic preservation.

Each chapter of *Mythic Galveston* begins with a vignette that places the city in a particular historical context. Hardwick draws heavily on manuscripts and documents, as well as city directories and interment and mortuary records, preserved in Galveston's Rosenberg Library. The author utilized statistical methods in conducting her research. Helpful maps graphically show the dispersal of ethnic groups throughout the city. This significant book should be a spur to further studies of the development and differentiation of other Texas cities.

Casey Greene  
Rosenberg Library

*Intriguing Texans of the Twentieth Century*, Dede Weldon Casad (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709) 2002. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. P. 173. \$18.95. Paperback.

Dede Weldon Casad's book on twentieth century Texans profiles an assortment of eighteen colorful individuals representing a variety of occupations, including five politicians, three sports figures, three entertainers,

and four writers, in addition to firefighter Red Adair, Howard Hughes, and Douglas "Wrong-Way" Corrigan. The volume includes endnotes and a bibliography composed of secondary sources and appropriate websites. In the preface, Casad explains that her subjects were limited to native Texans "familiar to most" (p. v), excluding "obvious" candidates such as Dr. Michael DeBakey and pianist Van Cliburn because they were not born in Texas. An intriguing disclosure by the author that Buddy Holly, Carol Burnett, and Tommy Lee Jones "were not included for various reasons known only to the author" is modified by the suggestion that they and others might "be included in a future volume" (p. v).

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this slim volume is the behind-the-scenes information on this medley of Texans whose names may be familiar to most, but often only marginally so. This reviewer found chapters on Douglas "Wrong-Way" Corrigan, Red Adair, Aaron Spelling, Sandra Day O'Connor, and Vikki Carr the most interesting, but believes that historians will find chapters on politicians and public figures such as John Nance Garner, Howard Hughes, Henry B. Gonzalez, Barbara Jordan, John Tower, and Allen Drury less satisfying.

This well-written and attractive volume should prove a popular addition to public and school libraries, especially those in East Texas where nine of Casad's intriguing Texans have roots.

James C. Maroney  
Lee College

*This Stubborn Self: Texas Autobiographies*, Bert Almon (Texas Christian University Press, TCU Box 297050, Fort Worth, TX 76129) 2002. Contents. Illus. Notes. Biblio. Index. P. 419. \$39.95. Hardcover.

*This Stubborn Self* is an elegantly-crafted overview of Texas autobiographies fashioned by a wide range of authors, including, among others, John A. Lomax, J. Frank Dobie, William A. Owens, A.C. Greene, William Humphrey, Larry McMurtry, Gloria Lopez-Stafford, and Mary Karr. These are works of significant revelatory value. According to Bert Almon, "Texans have produced some extraordinary autobiographies which reveal the state as well as its authors. Writers in this study can be read for their literary qualities, for their profound self-revelations, and for their record of the geography and history of a state often considered unique by its citizens and the world in general" (p. 1). Readers will find all three aspects meticulously examined by the author, a Port Arthur native who studied in El Paso and Albuquerque before assuming his present professorship at the University of Alberta in 1968.



Students of Texas letters will find no scarcity of informed literary criticism herein. It is, however, the life stories—the complex interplay between singularly unique individuals, demanding times, and often harsh environments—that will attract historians and general readers. Some, such as Annie Mae Hunt's refusal to succumb to the twin scourges of poverty and prejudice, are tales of triumph. Others, such as Gertrude Beasley's inability to overcome what can only be termed a childhood of horrors, end in tragedy. Each involves the search for understanding and fulfillment of self. Through his selection of writers, Almon insures that the Lone Star State's geographic, racial, and cultural diversity are unmistakable even to readers unfamiliar with the region and its peoples. Equally clear are the phenomenal demographic and economic changes transforming life between the Red and the Rio Grande over the last half-century.

*This Stubborn Self* is the product of impressive research, including utilization of various archival collections, an exhaustive review of the autobiographers' publications, and interviews or correspondence with a number of the contemporary authors. Almon's findings are argued convincingly in prose that rarely bogs down. All told, the volume is a welcome addition to the growing body of work examining Texas authors and the state's literary tradition.

L. Patrick Hughes  
Austin Community College

*Texas Vital Records*, A, D, E TVRVIEW (TVRVIEW, PMB#196, 12180 Greenspoint Dr, Houston, TX 77060-2002) CD. \$139 + Tax + S/H \$5.95.

A portion of Texas Vital records have been released to the public. They cover births from 1926 to 1995, marriages from 1966 to 2000, divorces from 1968 to 2000, and deaths from 1964 to 1998. The earlier birth records indicate the names of the parents, but due to privacy concerns, birth records for the last fifty years do not give this information.

These vital records have been arranged in alphabetical order by surname on eleven CDs, so when a search is completed you will have births, deaths, and marriages for a particular name. The installation program is included on the first disk so the TVR viewer may be installed on your computer. You may search for records from CDs or all eleven CDs may be copied to your hard drive for faster access. Typical searches take only seconds.

If you wish to save the records from your search, you may add all of them to a Results File. If you wish to save only a portion of the records found, you may double click on a name, and it will be added to the Results File. You may click on "Open Results File" on the top task bar and view the records you have saved. If you wish to print the records in the Results File, you will find that it

prints better in a landscape format to include the entire column on the page. When you have finished with the names in the Results File, click on "Clear Results File" and these records will be deleted, allowing you to add your new search to this file.

This set contains thousands of records which will help genealogical research. As upgrades become available, you will be notified by e-mail. This is a wonderful source for Texas Vital Records in the periods covered.

Carolyn Ericson  
Nacogdoches, Texas

*So There You Are: The Selected Prose of Glenn Brown, Journalist*, Paul Ruffin, Editor (Texas Review Press, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX 77341) 1998. Photographs. Index. Hardcover. \$30. Paperback. \$20.

*So There You Are* is a collection of familiar essays, many of them prepared as articles for *The Huntsville Item* or other newspapers. An unsettling section entitled "War" reveals the great trauma of Brown's life, his years as a Chinese prisoner during the Korean War. The remainder of the book deals with people in Huntsville and a multitude of other East Texas towns, so many that this book could become a Texas best seller if every library in a town that was mentioned were to buy it! Topics are as varied as mules, the jury trial system, brainwashing, and the conversation of crows.

With the exception of a few months with *The Abilene Reporter-News* and his military service in Korea, Brown's entire career was an East Texas one, primarily as a journalist, a professor of journalism, and the faculty advisor of the student newspaper at Sam Houston State University. His profession provided many opportunities for humor, such as lists of comic headlines observed in small newspapers—"Andalasia girl improved after drinking poison"—or even on national wire services—"LBJ giving bull to Mexican people"—to record a thoughtful gift from the U.S. president to Mexico. Other journalists appear in these pieces, such as Leon Hale, who once taught part-time at Sam Houston State University, and Dan Rather, perhaps the most celebrated alumnus of that institution.

General Sam Houston works his way into some pieces, notably in "Counting the Years: Watching the Three Score and Ten Rule," an East Texas nod to *Spoon River Anthology*; Houston did die at age seventy, and a number of others are mentioned who lived long on borrowed time, but Glenn Brown himself only survived one day past his sixty-fifth birthday.

A number of the "War" essays are hard to read, not because the style is Faulknerian but the contrary; they are so vivid and straightforward that one is overwhelmed by torture, disgusting diseases, and death in a profusion of

guises. In giving epilogues for some of those who survived Brown is able to make just as moving the deaths by more ordinary means such as cancer and heart disease, in the recent past.

Among the Huntsville pieces is a depiction of the dedication of the colossal statue of Sam Houston. The official name of David Adickes' largest work to date is "A Tribute to Courage," but most people's shorthand is "Big Sam" or Sam Houston State University students' irreverent "Sam Kong." Dan Rather, Governor Ann Richards, and Chief Wilma Mankiller of the Cherokees were among those brought together for this event that celebrated the bicentennial of Houston's birth. Many readers of this journal will enjoy the piece on Dr. Melvin Mason, longtime pillar of the ETHA, who is described as a "hard-shell professor" who "has a rule against letting it grow maudlin if you write anything." Another piece gives premonitions, unfortunately accurate, of Bill Clinton as president through the reminiscences of one of his Hot Springs classmates. The Café Texan, which has inspired more prose and poetry than probably any other East Texas hash-house, and the "Country Campus," a World War II P.O.W. Camp that Sam Houston State purchased for \$1 from the federal government, are also featured.

Paul Ruffin, the editor of this collection, noted that among the last material he received from Brown was this paragraph: "Practically everything we are is universal, it seems to me. Envy, strife, fear, and a hatred of people and ways that are different—these have been enjoyed by all flesh, in all the ages. But the love of old women has more abounded, shamed men toward good deeds they might not have done, and somehow always provided islands of compassion near the continents of pain." The best illustration of this philosophy found in the book is the account of Mama-san, the old Korean grandmother who defied terrorists to share her own precious food with "eight hungry airmen she couldn't even understand, kept captive in half her little house for months." It is one of many stories you will never forget.

Paul Culp  
Sam Houston State University

*Southwest Passages: The Inside Story of Southwest Airlines' Formative Years*, Lamar Muse (Eakin Press, P.O. Drawer 90159, Austin, Texas 78709) 2002. Contents. P. 245. Paperback. \$21.95.

Coincidences have a way of showing up in the oddest of places—even in book reviews.

In our family, Muse Cemetery near Slocum, in Anderson County, is hallowed ground. Going back eight decades, hundreds of Bowmans have been buried here, including those who built Muse Missionary Baptist Church across the road from the cemetery.

When we picked up Lamar Muse's book, *Southwest Passages, The Inside Story of Southwest Airlines' Formative Years*, we learned on Page 6 that Muse's roots came from the family which gave its name to the cemetery. Muse's father grew up along Ioni Creek.

All of this has nothing to do with airlines, except that it suggests that entrepreneurship, like coincidences, can spring from anywhere.

When he put together Muse Airlines, the genesis of Southwest Airlines, Lamar Muse drew upon his family roots, which included hefty sprinklings of East Texas common sense, hard work—sometimes translated in the business world as “clear, practical, timeless solutions.”

During his days in Anderson County, Muse was known by the nickname of “Ug,” short for ugly. He never earned a college degree, but with a broad understanding of complex market forces, he bypassed “business as usual” to launch Southwest Airlines.

When the airline made its first flight in June 1971, experts doubted it would last more than three months. It is now the airline industry's only profitable airline and one of America's most premier investments.

Muse carries readers on a ride through a remarkable career that spans forty-four years and seven airlines. He has good reason to wonder what would have happened if he had not ignored the traditional advice he got from airline executives. It is possible that Southwest would not be in business today.

Lamar Muse is one of Texas' great independent business thinkers—and my kind of East Texan.

Bob Bowman  
Lufkin, Texas

*The Bone Pickers*, Al Dewlen (Texas Tech University Press, P.O. Box 41037, Lubbock, TX 79410) 2002. Reprint 1958. P. 408. Novel. \$19.95. Paperback.

Before the television production of the notorious Ewing family of “Dallas,” there were the Mungers of Amarillo, created by Hall County native Al Dewlen. Like the Ewings, the Mungers were land poor ranchers who struck it oil-rich. Unlike the Ewings, the Mungers were all believable, flawed human beings formed by the society and culture of their rural Texas Panhandle, where they tried desperately to fit into the big town “uppity” society of Amarillo. The family was sired by hard drinking, profane, and abusive Cecil Munger, deceased before the beginning of the story. Flashbacks, however, provide glimpses of Cecil's cruelty toward his children.

The story revolves around the children and their spouses, as the former administer the trust established by old Cecil. The heirs control the money, while the latter are used as errand boys and doormats. The “board” consists of Spain, a colorless son who is chairman, and daughters Texas, China, and Bethel (old Cecil enjoyed geography). Another son, June, is mentally retarded because of an injury which Cecil inflicted in anger. The board has tucked June away at the ranch house under the supervision of John Remo, a tough ex-cop and boozier who develops a genuine affection for the child-like man. June’s pastimes consist of drilling holes in walls, hiding under the house while pursuing his cat, painting an obscene word on the barn roof, and beheading a flock of white leghorns with a golf club (my guess is that he used his 7 iron). Mooney “Moon,” the husband of Bethel, is the primary errand boy who is seldom rewarded for his loyalty. The board provides him with enough money to keep his photo shop open but not enough to make it a profitable concern as a processing lab for high school football films. His brother-in-law, Frank, is a partner in the business who fills his hours in the back room watching stag films.

Dewlen is an exceptional writer who gets inside his characters. The book is primarily a study of the hypocritical, *nouveau riche*, Texas oil-culture society in the post-World War II era. The plot moves slowly but surely to a tragic ending for one of the children and to liberation for Moon and Frank. For social historians, the book contains a wealth of scenes and details about the society and mores of the era. Most important, *The Bone Pickers* is a good story written by one of the Lone Star State’s most exceptional authors.

Donald E. Green  
Orlando, Florida

*Under the Chinaberry Tree: East Texas Folkways*, Tumbleweed Smith (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159) 2002. Contents. Biblio. B&W photos. P. 214. \$22.95. Paperback.

Tumbleweed Smith is a raconteur known to thousands in his newspaper, radio, and convention audiences. This collection of folklore, history, and interviews with rural “characters” shows that perhaps it takes a West Texan to appreciate East Texas.

Smith lives in Big Spring and teaches at the University of Texas—Permian Basin. Boyhood visits with his country grandparents and other relatives convinced him that “East Texas is a beautiful place.”

The book begins with a succinct history of Texas during the 350 years ending in 1870. Then come such familiar subjects as Jefferson, Caddo Lake, moonshine, dowsing for water, ‘possums, raccoons, and country cures.

There are reflections on gristmills, wood stoves, syrup making, death customs and the resourcefulness of pioneers, among many other short essays. Smith usually has a unique twist to each.

Did you know about the “beer boat” in Caddo Lake? After Prohibition ended, Harrison County voted itself “dry,” but neighboring Marion was “wet.” The Caddo Diner on the Marion side of the county line in Big Cypress Bayou became a popular place to dine, dance, and drink.

Most controversial is Tumbleweed’s delineation of “the real” East Texas: it has to have pine trees, but does not include the Big Thicket. His boundaries are: on the north, a line through Jefferson, Gilmer, Emory, and Quinlan; on the west, down through Terrell, Kaufman (too far west for pines), and south on I-45 to New Waverly; on the south, from New Waverly to the Sabine River; on the east, the Sabine from Bon Weir up to Caddo Lake.

Tumbleweed Smith’s fans will want to own this book; it is a perfect introduction for those who have not met him. The fifty photos by Rick Vanderpool that are scattered through the book have no captions. This is unacceptable.

Sarah Greene  
Gilmer, Texas